

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-24.(Cancelled as Non-elected)

1 25. (Currently Amended) A rod lens array according to claim 36 and including at
2 least one rod lens having a center-line-average roughness of 0.5 μm - 2.0 μm on
3 the peripheral surface.

1 26. (Previously Presented) A rod lens array in which constituent rod lenses are
2 such that representative values for the center-line-average roughness on their
3 peripheral surfaces are between 0.5 μm and 2.0 μm as averaged for the whole lens
4 array.

1 27. (Currently Amended) A rod lens array in which representative value for
2 center-line-average roughness of peripheral surfaces of constituent rod lenses have
3 a standard deviation between 0.01 μm and 0.2 μm for the whole lens array.

1 28. (Currently Amended) A rod lens array in which representative value for
2 diameters of constituent rod lenses have a standard deviation between 0.01 μm
3 and 2.5 μm for the whole lens array.

1 29. (Previously Presented) The rod lens array according to claim 26, wherein the
2 representative values for the center-line-average roughness are each a value on a
3 straight line that extends on the peripheral surface of the lens parallel to its axis.

1 30. (Previously Presented) The rod lens array according to claim 26, wherein the
2 representative values for the center-line-average roughness are each the average of
3 values on different straight lines that extend on the peripheral surface of the lens
4 along its axis.

1 31. (Previously Presented) The rod lens array according to claim 26, wherein each
2 of the rod lenses has a center-line-average roughness of 0.5 μm - 2.0 μm on the
3 peripheral surface.

1 32. (Previously Presented) The rod lens array according to claim 27, wherein each
2 of the rod lenses has a center-line-average roughness of 0.5 μm - 2.0 μm on the
3 peripheral surface.

1 33. (Previously Presented) The rod lens array according to claim 31, wherein the
2 center-line-average roughness of peripheral surfaces of the constituent rod lenses
3 have a standard deviation between 0.01 μm and 0.2 μm for the whole lens array.

1 34. (Previously Presented) The rod lens array according to claim 26, further
2 comprising:

3 a resin portion that is integral with the constituent rod lenses such that it
4 fills the gap between adjacent rod lenses and surrounds all rod lenses.

1 35. (Previously Presented) The rod lens array according to claim 34, wherein a
2 frame is fixed to at least one of two opposite outer surfaces of said resin portion
3 such that the frame is parallel with the rod lenses.

1 36. (New) A rod lens array comprising:

2 a plurality of gradient index rod lenses each of which are spaced apart by
3 an average spacing of 1 μm to 5 μm ; and

4 means for fixing the gradient index rod lens in alignment in an integral rod
5 lens array unit.

1 37. (New) The rod lens array of claim 36, wherein the average spacing is in a
2 range of 2 μm to 5 μm .

1 38. (New) The rod lens array of claim 36, wherein variation in alignment pitch,
2 horizontal variation and/or height variation is suppressed.

1 39. (New) A rod lens array according to claim 36 and in which constituent rod
2 lenses are such that representative values for the center-line-average roughness on
3 their peripheral surfaces are between 0.5 μm and 2.0 μm as averaged for the whole
4 lens array.

1 40. (New) A rod lens array according to claim 36 in which center-line-average
2 roughness of peripheral surfaces of constituent rod lenses have a standard
3 deviation between 0.01 μm and 0.2 μm for the whole lens array.

1 41. (New) A rod lens array according to claim 36 in which diameters of
2 constituent rod lenses have a standard deviation between 0.01 μm and 2.5 μm for
3 the whole lens array.